

#### November 5, 2004

#### BY OVERNIGHT MAIL

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
Boston, MA 02110

RE: D.T.E. 04-1: An investigation by the Department of

Telecommunications and Energy regarding the assignment of interstate pipeline capacity pursuant to Natural Gas Unbundling,

D.T.E. 98-32-B (1999).

Dear Ms. Cottrell,

Enclosed for filing please find Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil") the original and nine (9) copies of three (3) Motions for Protective Treatment for certain data provided in response to data requests DTE-FGE-1-1, 1-2, 1-3, and 1-7.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Carry Erala

Enclosure

cc: Caroline M. Bulger, Hearing Officer

Andreas Thanos, Assistant Director Gas Division (5)

Gary Epler Senior Regulatory Counsel 6 Liberty Lane West Hampton, NH 03842-1720

Phone: 603-773-6440 Fax: 603-773-6640 Email: epler@unitil.com

### THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

Investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and
Energy regarding the assignment of interstate pipeline
capacity pursuant to Natural Gas Unbundling,

D.T.E. 98-32-B (1999)

D.T.E. 98-32-B (1999)

# MOTION OF FITCHBURG GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO DTE-FGE-1-1(a) and (d), and 1-3(a) and (e)

NOW COMES Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil") and respectfully requests that the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") grant it protection from public disclosure for certain confidential and competitively sensitive information submitted in discovery responses made by Unitil in accordance with G.L. c. 25, § 5D. In support of this Motion, Unitil states:

- 1. Unitil requests protection from public disclosure the following information: the name of the supplier or storage facility and pricing terms sought by information request DTE-FGE-1-1(a) and (c), and the name of the asset/portfolio manager and the pricing terms sought by information request DTE-FGE-1-3(a) and (c).
- 2. G.L. c. 25, § 5D is specifically designed to protect against disclosure of competitively sensitive information. That provision, in part, provides:

[T]he [D]epartment may protect from public disclosure, trade secrets, confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of proceedings conducted pursuant to this chapter. There shall be a presumption that the information for which protection is sought is public information and the burden shall be upon the proponent of such protection to prove the need for such protection. Where such a need has been found to exist, the [D]epartment shall protect only so much of the information as is necessary to meet such need.

- 3. Unitil submits that the provisions of this filing described above should be protected from public disclosure because this information is competitively sensitive information.
- 4. The identity of a supplier and the pricing terms under which supply is provided, and the identity of a portfolio manager and the pricing terms of this service, represent the quintessential type of market sensitive information for which c. 25 § 5d contemplates protection. Such information tells the world how the supplier or portfolio manager views the competitive marketplace and how its competitors may successfully compete against it. The obligation to keep this information confidential was part of the understanding implicit in the consummation of these contracts.
- 5. This information is normally not disclosed by Unitil, and Unitil takes steps to protect this information from public disclosure. Unitil submits that this information is well within the scope of "confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information" contemplated by G.L. c. 25, § 5D, and accordingly, should be protected from public disclosure for a period of 2 years.

WHEREFORE, for all the reasons set forth in this Motion, Unitil respectfully requests that the Department issue an Order granting protective treatment to the provisions of the filing described above.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Epler

Senior Regulatory Counsel Unitil Service Corp.

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(603) 773-6440

(603) 773-6640 (fax)

Epler@unitil.com

Dated: November 5, 2004

### THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

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## MOTION OF FITCHBURG GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO DTE-FGE-1-2(c), (e) and (f)

NOW COMES Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil") and respectfully requests that the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") grant it protection from public disclosure for certain confidential and competitively sensitive information submitted in discovery responses made by Unitil in accordance with G.L. c. 25, § 5D. In support of this Motion, Unitil states:

- 1. Unitil requests protection from public disclosure the following information: information disclosing the pricing terms, the name of the company and the contract number concerning the contract for LP gas with a trucking company sought by information request DTE-FGE-1-2.
- 2. G.L. c. 25, § 5D is specifically designed to protect against disclosure of competitively sensitive information. That provision, in part, provides:

[T]he [D]epartment may protect from public disclosure, trade secrets, confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of proceedings conducted pursuant to this chapter. There shall be a presumption that the information for which protection is sought is public information and the burden shall be upon the proponent of such protection to prove the need for such protection. Where such a need has been found to exist, the [D]epartment shall protect only so much of the information as is necessary to meet such need.

- 3. Unitil submits that the provisions of this filing described above should be protected from public disclosure because this information is competitively sensitive information.
- 4. The identity of trucking company and the pricing terms under which LP gas is provided represent the quintessential type of market sensitive information for which c. 25 § 5d contemplates protection. The LP gas trucking market is a competitive market not regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the terms of this service are not posted by FERC. Disclosure of this information would harm Unitil's customers by revealing this competitively sensitive information to the market.
- 5. This information is normally not disclosed by Unitil, and Unitil takes steps to protect this information from public disclosure. Unitil submits that this information is well within the scope of "confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information" contemplated by G.L. c. 25, § 5D, and accordingly, should be protected from public disclosure for a period of 2 years.

WHEREFORE, for all the reasons set forth in this Motion, Unitil respectfully requests that the Department issue an Order granting protective treatment to the provisions of the filing described above.

Respectfully submitted,

Senior Regulatory Counsel Unitil Service Corp.

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## MOTION OF FITCHBURG GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO DTE-FGE-1-7

NOW COMES Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil") and respectfully requests that the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") grant it protection from public disclosure for certain confidential and competitively sensitive information submitted in discovery responses made by Unitil in accordance with G.L. c. 25, § 5D. In support of this Motion, Unitil states:

- 1. Unitil requests protection from public disclosure the following information: the name of the marketer and total transportation volume of the marketer provided in response to information request DTE-FGE-1-7.
- 2. G.L. c. 25, § 5D is specifically designed to protect against disclosure of competitively sensitive information. That provision, in part, provides:

[T]he [D]epartment may protect from public disclosure, trade secrets, confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of proceedings conducted pursuant to this chapter. There shall be a presumption that the information for which protection is sought is public information and the burden shall be upon the proponent of such protection to prove the need for such protection. Where such a need has been found to exist, the [D]epartment shall protect only so much of the information as is necessary to meet such need.

- 3. Unitil submits that the provisions of this filing described above should be protected from public disclosure because this information is competitively sensitive information.
- 4. Information regarding the marketers' names and volumes, if provided by all of the local distribution companies and not made subject to confidential treatment by the Department, can point to business strategies for each marketer as to service territories they are targeting or avoiding. This information can be used by marketer competitors to the disadvantage of customers. Marketers may choose to avoid a service territory that is targeted by other marketers and may prefer to go into a service territory where there is less competition. This would allow the marketer to charge higher prices to customers than he otherwise might without the existence of this information.
- 5. Conversely, the information that a service territory has few marketers may tip a marketer that there is some reason why others are avoiding specific territories and therefore, the marketer may also avoid them, leaving customers in that service territory with no choice other than the distribution company.
- 6. Business strategies and market information can be implied if this data is made available to the public. This may indirectly affect prices that marketers present to customers. Furthermore, if a wholesale supplier knows the total volumes within a state or region that a supplier needs to procure, it may affect the offer the supplier gives to the marketer, especially where marketer market share is generally so much smaller than that of the distribution company.
- 7. This information is normally not disclosed by Unitil, and Unitil takes steps to protect this information from public disclosure. Unitil submits that this information is well within the scope of "confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary

information" contemplated by G.L. c. 25, § 5D, and accordingly, should be protected from public disclosure for a period of three years.

WHEREFORE, for all the reasons set forth in this Motion, Unitil respectfully requests that the Department issue an Order granting protective treatment to the provisions of the filing described above.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Epler Senior Regulatory Counsel Unitil Service Corp. 6 Liberty Lane West Hampton, NH 03842 (603) 773-6440 (603) 773-6640 (fax) Epler@unitil.com

Dated: November 5, 2004